

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) voted to save U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars by cracking down on waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs. The bipartisan IMPROVE Acquisition Act will reform the defense acquisition system to save American taxpayers \$135 billion over the next five years and make sure that the men and women who are risking their lives to safeguard our country get the proper equipment they need to do their jobs and protect themselves on the battlefield.

“As the ranking female on the House Armed Services Committee, I am committed to getting our men and women in uniform the resources they need to do their jobs safely and effectively,” said Rep. Sanchez. “At the same time, we also have an obligation to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in government. This bill would help ensure that Congress is making smart investments in projects and programs that enhance America’s security – not those that waste taxpayer dollars.”

The IMPROVE Acquisition Act cleans up waste, fraud, and abuse in the defense acquisition system through four key common sense reforms. It creates a better accountability system, establishes an auditable financial management system at the Department of Defense, improves the management of the acquisition workforce, and expands and strengthens the industrial base. The bill builds on the legislation enacted by the Democratic-led Congress last year to clean up wasteful defense spending and reform weapons system acquisition.

A second measure, the bipartisan Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act, targets nearly \$100 billion a year in improper government payments that result from poor oversight on the part of federal agencies. This legislation improves transparency in government agencies, prevents improper payments, requires agencies to recover overpayments, and holds top managers at agencies accountable for improper payments or overpayments.